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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/628,496	07/28/2000	Mark Bresnan	F-192	3808
919 7590 02/02/2007 PITNEY BOWES INC. 35 WATERVIEW DRIVE P.O. BOX 3000 MSC 26-22 SHELTON, CT 06484-8000			EXAMINER DIXON, THOMAS A	
			ART UNIT 3628	PAPER NUMBER
SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE		MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE	
3 MONTHS		02/02/2007	PAPER	

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/628,496

Applicant(s)

BRESNAN ET AL.

Examiner

Thomas A. Dixon

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 August 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21, 23-40 and 42-52 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21, 23-40, 42-52 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                       | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                       |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

### DETAILED ACTION

1. The specification amendments of August 17, 2006, and February 22, 2006, August 6, 2001 and claim amendments of August 17, 2006, and February 22, 2006 are non compliant with 1.173 and has not been entered.

In the specification, all specification amendments should be in relation to the original patent specification, insertions marked with underlining, deletions marked with brackets.

In the claims, all claim amendments should be in relation to the original patent claims, insertions marked with underlining, deletions marked with brackets.

claims 2-14, there is a period before the wherein in the preamble.

claim 22, should reflect cancelled status

claim 46, there is a period before "A system"

claims 23, 51, should have no bracketing, the deleted text should just be removed.

2. The declaration is objected to, the error "as claimed" is insufficient. The error needs to be clearly recited as what is the problem with the original patent claims in terms of the limitations of the patent claims. See 35 U.S.C 251, 37 CFR 1,175(a)(1), and MPEP 1414.

The declaration of 6/5/01 is objected to, assignee's signature is unacceptable, All declarations must be signed by all inventors is required. See 37 CFR 1.43, 1.43, 1.47 and MPEP 1410.01.

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Before issue, a "catch-up" or supplemental declaration with the language "Every error in the patent which was corrected in the present reissue application, and which is not covered by the prior oath(s) or declaration(s) submitted in this application, arose without an deceptive intention on the part of the applicant." (37 CFR 1.175(b)(1)), or language equivalent thereto. See MPEP 1444 for handling supplemental declarations.

***Offer to Surrender Patent***

3. Applicant's offer to surrender the patent 5,873,073 is acceptable.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

4. Claims 1, 15, 20, 38 are allowable.
5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

As per Claim 1.

The prior art of record, specifically, Harmon et al ('706), Cordery et al ('249), Murko et al ('255), Humes et al ('120), Baker et al ('305), Sansone ('482) or Axelrod et al ('505) do not disclose or fairly teach:

- d) transmitting said print job to a terminal node wherein said terminal node is not co-located with, nor under the control of said first node;
- e) receiving said print job at said terminal node, said terminal node for receiving said print job and for directing said print job to a mail production means for producing said mail piece, said mail production means further comprising:
  - (i) a first printer; and
  - (ii) a second printer;
- g) printing on said second printer said document is printed in accordance with characteristics selected at said first node.

As per Claim 15.

The prior art of record, specifically, Harmon et al ('706), Cordery et al ('249), Murko et al ('255), Humes et al ('120), Baker et al ('305), Sansone ('482) or Axelrod et al ('505) do not disclose or fairly teach:

- b) transmission means for transmitting said mailing to a second data processing means wherein said second data processing means is not co-located with, nor under control of, said first data processing means;
- c) second data processing means for receiving said mailing and downloading said mailing to a plurality of printer means comprising a first printer and a second printer;

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e) second printer means comprising said second printer for printing said document to media selected at said first data processing means.

As per Claim 20.

The prior art of record, specifically, Harmon et al ('706), Cordery et al ('249), Murko et al ('255), Humes et al ('120), Baker et al ('305), Sansone ('482) or Axelrod et al ('505) do not disclose or fairly teach:

creating a document and storing said document in electronic form;  
transmitting said document, said address list and said characteristics to a terminal node wherein said terminal node is not co-located with, nor under the control of, said first node;

printing said document in accordance with one or more of said characteristics selected at said first node; and

providing said printed envelope with evidence of postage payment.

As per Claim 38.

The prior art of record, specifically, Harmon et al ('706), Cordery et al ('249), Murko et al ('255), Humes et al ('120), Baker et al ('305), Sansone ('482) or Axelrod et al ('505) do not disclose or fairly teach:

a system for producing a mailpiece that has a second data processing means that is not co-located or under the control of a first data processing means which electronically receive selected documents and direct the selected documents to a mail production means that includes printing means and that print the selected document, an envelope for the selected document and means for printing the envelope with evidence of postage payment.

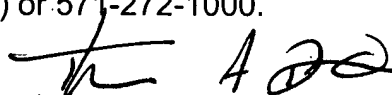
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### **Conclusion**

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thomas A. Dixon whose telephone number is (571) 272-6803. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday 6:30 - 4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Hayes can be reached on (571) 272-6708. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'h 400', is positioned above the printed name of the examiner.

Thomas A. Dixon  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 3628

November 06